

UP LIKE A ROCKET

New York and Chicago Grow With Great Rapidity.

SOME PERTINENT PREDICTIONS

John McGovern and Andrew H. Green Write of Great Cities—A Woman's View.

When we see the statistics of Chicago in a moment. Well, I suppose we don't need to say that the city is growing up like a rocket. The statistics show that the city has grown from 100,000 in 1850 to 1,700,000 in 1900. The growth has been so rapid that the city is now one of the largest in the world.

The tendency for the accumulation of wealth in a few hands must continue to increase until overturned by a social revolution that will make such an increase impossible. This revolution is certain to be accomplished within less than fifty years.

Great corporations and vast business aggregations will continue to grow greater until they overshadow the power of the individual. The tendency for the accumulation of wealth in a few hands must continue to increase until overturned by a social revolution that will make such an increase impossible.

Within the next century law will be simplified and brought within the range of the common people, and the concentration of wealth in the hands of a few will be destroyed. At present law is a tremendous barrier. It is beyond the possibility of any mortal man to know the law in its entirety.

American literature will tell the story of American life, and will therefore be born within the next century. The sphere of music in the church, in the world, will be enlarged to the blessing of the masses. The drama must be born again or it will be a corruption within the next century.

JOHN MCGOVERN.

New York's Growth Continued by Andrew H. Green.

From Our New York Correspondent. "The greatest city in America and the greatest city in the world in the twentieth century will be that which is the metropolis of the New York State. This is the prophecy of Andrew H. Green, who has just published his book, 'The Growth of New York City'.

Mr. Green believes that Chicago to be the most gigantic of the internal cities of the United States, numbering in its population in the next century perhaps almost as many as Paris now has. But the New York of 1900 has, he estimates, more than 1,000,000 people.

Early in the next century the consolidation of all that section which is now comprised in the metropolitan district under one municipality will, I think, have been accomplished. It will then bring more than 3,000,000 people under one municipal government, and when we remember that in this district 100 years ago less than 20,000 people lived, it is fair to infer from the natural law growth that more than 3,000,000 will be in this district 100 years hence, all under one local government.

It is to be the finest municipal development the world has ever seen. I expect that some of the problems that have been solved by the great conglomeration of cities. The finest churches, the most magnificent parks, the most beautiful drives, will give comfort and delight to the people who live in this community in the next century. There are to be no more of the municipal administration and I don't say that the New York of the next century is going to be ideally perfect, but I do say that it is going to be the comprehension of men living together in the most harmonious of this great city as it will be in the next century."

Rev. Thomas Dixon's Mental Telescope Takes a Wide Sweep.

As the political and social condition of the United States and of the world in 1900, I don't believe there will be a general war in the distant world at the close of the next century. I believe that democracy will reign triumphant to the farthest limits of civilization.

It seems to me certain that government must grow more complex in its complexity. The government of the future will be a government of the people, and the people will be the masters of the government. The government of the future will be a government of the people, and the people will be the masters of the government.

That it will be possible for women to walk from house to house in city or country without being molested or harassed, or even to have a single woman in the fields or woods, without danger of being molested or harassed by the "natural protectors."

That the persons who chance to witness a crime may not be molested and that it is up to them to see that the crime is not committed. That the persons who chance to witness a crime may not be molested and that it is up to them to see that the crime is not committed.

will be weighed in the balance and found wanting, and when this happens, the city will be a disaster, and a disaster the good will be in a thoroughgoing, radical, prohibitory law.

The punishment of criminals, it seems to me, will be based more and more upon the effort to reform rather than to punish. Capital punishment will be abolished. It has now already collapsed. We had 1,000 murders last year and less than 100 legal executions. The sentiment of the age is against it, and human life suffers in consequence. The only remedy seems to be to substitute life imprisonment and make the execution of law a practical certainty upon the guilty.

Our divorce laws must become uniform not only in America, but there must be in the future an adjustment of the principle of the home life international. All international law is founded on the strategic group of society. If Mr. Deacon fails to secure a divorce in Paris he proposes to apply to the courts of America, and vice versa, the law which is interested in each procedure may change the law of operations.

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MR. J. JACOB ASTOR

A Clever Inventor and a Credit to His Famous Family.

HIS INVENTIONS DESCRIBED

Many Useful Contrivances the Product of His Genius—His Wonderful System for Producing Rain.

There have been four John Jacob Astors who have demanded the attention of Americans either on account of their wealth, their philanthropy or other circumstances of an unusual character. John Jacob Astor fourth, the great grandson of the first of the name, is not only noticeable as the inheritor of tens of millions of the Astor accumulations, but for another reason, which he revealed to the writer of this article a few days ago, and which is that he lives, moves and has his being in discovery and invention. A pneumatic road-cleaning machine that he has invented and which will be one of the features of the Chicago world's fair, where it will be seen in practical operation, is of far more interest to him than his palatial country home of Ferncliff at Rhinebeck on the Hudson and the whole of his stock farm there. His patent improved bicycle brake is of greater importance to him mentally than all the pleasure he can get out of his steam yacht Nourmahal or out of his membership in the riding, racquet and tennis country, Tuxedo, New York Yacht and Yacht club combined. And his method of inducing rain is a much greater delight to him than almost all the millions of dollars and hundreds of other houses to those that he has inherited from his great-grandfather, grandfather and father included.

Perhaps young John Jacob Astor may change in this particular as he grows older, but at the present time—he is now in his twenty-ninth year—there is no question of his burning enthusiasm for natural philosophy and mechanics. In my talk with him at his residence, 175 Fifth avenue, after straightening out his six feet three inches of anatomy and commanding my attention with a winning glance from his large blue eyes, he said:

"Although my road cleaner and bicycle brake are inventions of which I am very proud, I am far more interested in my rain inducing method. Let me explain in my own way what it is by the aid of this perspective view, illustrating the application of my improved method."

Here Mr. Astor handed the writer the accompanying drawing made by himself, and which he afterward loaned to the interviewer. Then he proceeded with the following description:

"The volume of a given weight of air depends upon the pressure to which it is subjected. The smaller the pressure the greater will be its volume. The pressure of the atmosphere at the earth's surface is about fourteen and three-quarter pounds per square inch. This pressure diminishes with the altitude. When a mass of air is transferred from the lower to the upper atmosphere it expands by virtue of the diminution of the pressure and becomes cooler. The rate at which this cooling takes place is about one degree for every one hundred and eighty-three feet of ascent. If the air be dry, and somewhat less than one degree for the same distance if the air be moist. Clouds are generally produced by the rising of the heated moist air from the earth's surface."

JOHN JACOB ASTOR'S PNEUMATIC ROAD CLEANER IN OPERATION.

or bicyclist. Later he invented a patent bicycle brake shoe.

So much for the inventions of John Jacob Astor fourth. But he has even more in his mind than the three described. I also learned, during our extended conversation, that since his first cousin, William Waldorf Astor, the author of the novel "Valentino" and "Sforza," seems likely to expatriate himself in England, where he is now basking in the smiles of British royalty and aristocracy, it would result in his (John Jacob's) endeavoring to wishfully represent the Astors in the Empire city, he being the only adult male member of the family residing here. I also discovered that the fourth John Jacob proposed, as far as possible, to act as the champion of his disinherited uncle, Henry Astor, who married a most estimable lady, Miss Malvina Dinwiddie, and who did not receive what should have been his—third share of the Astor millions—through the hostility of his brother John Jacob Astor third.

There was much more in relation to alleged Astor skeletons in the Astor closet that was shown to be absolutely fallacious. And I also discovered that although John Jacob Astor fourth, being the great-grandson of John Jacob Astor first, was one of the richest men in America, yet he recognized that it had happened to him that he was not of his own family, and that he proposed to make himself as useful as possible to his fellow American citizens through whatever special gifts and birthrights might be his, and foremost of which, although he was too modest and unassuming to acknowledge it, was the inventive genius of John Jacob Astor fourth.

COLMOLTYE.

Another Man's Legs.

At the capital in Baton Rouge is a portrait of Zachary Taylor with which is connected an amusing reminiscence. While Gen. Howard, the author of Taylor's recent "Life," was looking at the picture, an old resident said to him:

"Why, sir, that's Zachary Taylor's head and shoulders with another man's legs."

"How is that, my friend?"

"Oh, the old gentleman would not sit as a model. When he little thought what was being done the artist sketched his head and body, but as the general declared he could not afford the time for further operations, the painter was obliged to finish with another man."

The result is said to be fairly good. It is a well-executed picture, though the face is neither so firm nor so strong as that of other portraits, and the figure is that of a man somewhat taller than the general—YOUTH'S COMPANION.

Equal to the Occasion.

Carlie—Mamma, here comes the train boy; now won't you buy me some mixed candy?

Mamma—You said that if I would take you on the cars you wouldn't ask for any mixed candy.

Carlie—Then get me some that isn't mixed.—HARPER'S Young People.

The North American Flag.

In Rio Janeiro there is a novel system of avoiding the blockading of streets. On the business thoroughfares all the trucks and vehicles are headed in one direction. In this way the stream of traffic is kept constantly moving. If the current is bound east and a man doing business on the street desires to drive west, he takes the first cross street east and gets to a less crowded way before turning westward.

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MONEY READY AND PLANS MADE

No Ridiculous Rules and Restrictions or Offensive Espionage to Be Tolerated.

NEW YORK is going to have an apartment house for women, and, considering the five thousand women artists, musicians, journalists, bookkeepers, stenographers and students scattered around in dingy boarding houses and dark flats, there is certainly a great need of at least one commodious structure that shall be well lighted, well ventilated and well appointed, where womanhood can have freedom and comfort at a moderate cost, and where climbing stairs—that bane of woman's health and consumer of woman's strength—shall give way to the restfulness of an elevator.

It is a peculiar fact that, while all avenues of work and study have been opened up to woman and she has demonstrated her ability to earn her own living and take care of herself, there has never been any cognizance of her individuality, no place provided for her to live.

Bachelor apartments, with elegant entrances suggesting the luxuries within, display their aggravating signs in every quarter; old-time mansions, in convenient locations, have been thoroughly renovated and rearranged in suites and single rooms, for "gentlemen only," and even the high-toned boarding-houses imagine it adds to their dignity to advertise "gentlemen preferred."

What, then, is the business woman to do? A single woman looking for desirable quarters in New York at present has to live in some very annoying place, as well as an annoying experience. She will find it hard to get into a first-class house unless it is so late in the season that the landlady has no hope of securing another man, and she will not seldom find that she is paying a dollar or two more by the week than did the man occupying the room before her—to cover gas used in crimping her hair, extra service required of servants, etc.

A woman asking accommodation for two will be met with the utmost graciousness until the landlady discovers that the second party is not a husband, but another woman; then there is crawling and finally a flat statement that she makes it a rule to take in "only families and gentlemen."

This sort of thing leaves the woman little choice and usually drives her into an ordinary house where she must pay eight, nine or ten dollars a week for board and a hall bedroom she can't turn around in. These hall bedrooms have no means of heat except from the halls or by a gas stove at one dollar a week extra. The cost of them have a mantel and two chairs, but no bookshelves, and another woman, then there is crawling and finally a flat statement that she makes it a rule to take in "only families and gentlemen."

Perhaps the woman rents a square room, furnished; here at least, she can do as she pleases. But she is compelled to go out for her meals, in all states of health and weather; only bachelor apartments have restaurants attached.

The only alternative is a flat, at from thirty to fifty dollars a month, with steam heat and perhaps gas. In this flat there will be one light room, the front one. It will glory in the possession of two windows, while the kitchen in the rear will have but one, and the rooms between none at all unless there happens to be an air shaft or a skylight. And, by the way, those make-shifts are advertised as "light" rooms, New York being built up so solidly that every inch of light space is valuable in proportion to the ground space.

Mrs. Wheeler and Miss Lewis between them evolved by degrees and much deliberation a practical plan for a boarding house. The stenographer may open an office in her sitting room, to save rent, and the dressmaker carry on business in connection with her living room. The walls will be decorated so that music teachers and pupils may practice in peace, and the top floor will be reserved for studios with the necessary top north light. In fact, everything will be done with the welfare of the workingwomen in view—something that seems too good to be true to the woman who has battled with circumstances in New York for the past ten years.

It will be essentially a woman's building, and it is to be hoped that the different clubs, schools and branches of business peculiar to women will gather under one roof, to be easily found when wanted. There will be a telephone and telegraph office with women operators and a book and news stand with women clerks. The ground floor will be divided into stores, and here should be installed milliners, hairdressers, gloves and notions, fancy work—every branch of business that a woman carries on successfully.

The restaurant in connection will be under the management of a woman, on salary if possible, so there will be no idea of gain, but merely of supplying the very best that can be afforded at moderate prices, and it will be a public restaurant, open to both men and women, avoiding the formlessness of an old maid's lunch room.

There will be a fine opening for Turkish baths, as there is but one place in New York where a woman can have a bath after one o'clock, and that is a dingy place which is practically out of the busy woman's reach, because it is not open evenings, Sundays or holidays, as the men's baths are. In a building where women live there will be the added luxury of a bath and bed directly afterward, instead of dressing and going into the outdoor air, risking one's death of cold.

The open court has already been spoken for the sale of potted plants and cut flowers by a woman florist on Long Island, and a bower of beauty it will be. A library will probably be donated as a memorial by a philanthropic woman, and the Associated Artists—an association composed mainly of women—will give their services in the interior decoration.

A large assembly room will be a decided feature of the building. Societies pay library one hundred dollars a month for the use of one of their rooms. The Woman's Press club and the Twelfth Night girls are awfully crowded for space when they undertake to entertain their friends, and the various other women's clubs greatly need suitable quarters for public meetings, receptions, dinners, etc. This assembly room in a woman's building will fill a long felt want.

Any way, next September or October will find the building ready for occupancy. Just in time to get settled for the winter, and if the building proves to have been established on a satisfactory basis, the women will see the advantage of such an investment and with other buildings will rush in where before they feared to tread.

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It is a peculiar fact that, while all avenues of work and study have been opened up to woman and she has demonstrated her ability to earn her own living and take care of herself, there has never been any cognizance of her individuality, no place provided for her to live.

Bachelor apartments, with elegant entrances suggesting the luxuries within, display their aggravating signs in every quarter; old-time mansions, in convenient locations, have been thoroughly renovated and rearranged in suites and single rooms, for "gentlemen only," and even the high-toned boarding-houses imagine it adds to their dignity to advertise "gentlemen preferred."

What, then, is the business woman to do? A single woman looking for desirable quarters in New York at present has to live in some very annoying place, as well as an annoying experience. She will find it hard to get into a first-class house unless it is so late in the season that the landlady has no hope of securing another man, and she will not seldom find that she is paying a dollar or two more by the week than did the man occupying the room before her—to cover gas used in crimping her hair, extra service required of servants, etc.

A woman asking accommodation for two will be met with the utmost graciousness until the landlady discovers that the second party is not a husband, but another woman; then there is crawling and finally a flat statement that she makes it a rule to take in "only families and gentlemen."